

Fire and Rescue Department

Fairfax County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kings Park Accidental House Fire

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire at approximately 2:40 p.m., Saturday, November 20, 2004, in the Kings Park area of Fairfax County. The two-story home is located at 5214 Kings Park Drive.

First arriving units reported heavy fire from the two-level home. The fire was brought under control in approximately 20 minutes. Two juveniles were at home when the fire started. The owner of the home suffered smoke inhalation and burns while attempting to extinguish the fire. He was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital for treatment. The fire started in an attached shed located to the rear of the structure and extended to the home through a door in a carport. Two adults and three children have been displaced.

Damage is estimated at \$45,000.

The cause of the fire is determined to be accidental, unintentional ignition of gasoline in the shed.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department would like to remind you of some important safety tips for using gasoline safely;

Gasoline is one of the most dangerous substances stored in or around the home.

- Make sure all flammable liquids are stored away from ignition sources such as pilot lights, water heaters, electrical appliances and open flames;
- Only purchase enough for the job at hand; store it in approved containers;
- Don't store it in the house. Keep it in a detached garage or a storage shed;
- Don't use gasoline for washing automotive parts. Fumes can ignite from an ignition source nearby;
- Don't try to extinguish a gasoline fire with water. Water will only spread the fire.

For more on this or other fire safety issues, please contact the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Public Information and Life Safety Education Section at 703-246-3801 or 703-385-4419 (TTY).

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